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Note by the Secretary-General

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1. Agence d'aide à la coopération technique et au développement

Special, 2006

I. Introduction

Agence d'aide à la coopération technique et au développement is a French-based NGO created in 1993. Currently present in 30 countries in the world, it implements programmes aimed at supporting vulnerable populations and communities to get out of poverty, in a participatory and sustainable manner. Independent, private and not-for-profit, it respects a strict political and religious impartiality and operates according to principles of non-discrimination and transparency.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's vocation is to support vulnerable populations affected by wars, natural disasters and/or economic and social crises, and to assist them in building a better future, thus contributing to the Millennium Development Goals. It currently implements around 170 projects a year in Africa, Asia, Central America and the Middle East, serving 8 million beneficiaries. Our actions seek to cover the multiple aspects of humanitarian and development crises through a multidisciplinary approach that is both global and local and adapted to each context. The organization's vision is to establish a link between emergencies, rehabilitation and development. In order to guarantee the sustainability of actions carried out during crises, it remains in the field after an emergency and involves the communities, thereby providing long-term support to break the poverty cycle and assist populations in achieving development. Since 2007, it has joined Alliance2015, a partnership of seven like-minded non-governmental organizations working in the field of development cooperation. It is a member of VOICE, the European network representing 85 European non-governmental organizations active in humanitarian aid worldwide.

Significant changes in the organization

Through a continued presence, the organization has built up a special knowledge of each region, its people and its challenges, enabling its staff to implement relevant programmes adapted to the needs of the most vulnerable populations, from emergency relief actions to long-term development actions.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization's ultimate objective and guiding principle is to contribute to the eradication of poverty by actively supporting vulnerable civil populations and helping them to overcome stressful situations during periods of transition and upheaval. As such, it has engaged, developed and sustained a constant dialogue with other aid stakeholders, such as the United Nations agencies, and has built on its

direct and constantly changing experience as aid practitioners, thus contributing to the wider poverty alleviation debate.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

In 2006, the organization applied for special consultative status with the Council, in order to take a step forward in sharing its experience. While it has not yet fully taken advantage of this excellent opportunity, it has taken some important steps in that direction.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the organization implemented numerous projects funded by United Nations agencies, especially in collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). United Nations funding for the organization in 2009 amounted to around $20 million. Cooperation was mainly oriented towards the following sectors: emergency relief: emergency food and non-food item distribution, refugee camp management, access to drinking water; food security: support to rural development and rural infrastructure and to agricultural groups and cooperatives; health promotion: water, sanitation and hygiene promotion, the fight against malaria; education and training: support to education and vocational training; economic development: infrastructure development and rehabilitation, income-generating activities; microfinance; institutional support for disaster risk reduction and conflict mitigation; cultural promotion and support to local handicrafts. In each of its areas of intervention, the organization considered the United Nations system a primary and essential partner. More recently, it developed another form of cooperation with United Nations bodies. With the objective of improving the accuracy and comprehensiveness of data collected at the village level — the current basic unit for programme planning — some of its missions launched a new initiative, namely an in-depth needs analysis at the community, village and individual levels, and mapped the data on REACH, a web-based information management tool. REACH not only facilitated a rapid needs assessment, but also helped the organization to monitor and track the progress of projects, outcomes and impact on beneficiaries at the microlevel, which was crucial to plan longer-term development actions. The organization discussed establishing a global partnership with the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Operational Satellite Applications Programme, building on their strategic and operational synergies, to replicate this initiative in other potential crises and contexts.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

The organization's contribution towards achieving the Goals focused on eradicating extreme poverty and hunger as well as reducing child mortality. Its water, sanitation

and hygiene (WASH) programmes focused on providing beneficiaries with the means to take on their own development, improve their economic and financial capacity, knowledge, education and skills, access to technology and infrastructure, health infrastructure, and knowledge and practices, as well as the environment, thereby contributing to a better world. These are the organization's core values and firm commitment. Since 2007, it has engaged in another dialogue to strengthen its efforts towards the achievement of the Goals, namely by joining forces with Alliance2015. In 2008, it established "Convergences 2015", a discussion forum aimed at developing new convergences among private, public and non-profit sectors. To date, microfinance and social business are the poverty reduction tools that have been mostly discussed within this forum. The 2010 forum, held in May at the Paris City Hall, gathered together 800 experts from the business, social business, international development, civil society and public sectors. The conference focused on the preparation of the High-level Plenary Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals in September 2010 and the End Poverty 2015 campaign.

2. Association des états généraux des étudiants de l'Europe

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

Association des états généraux des étudiants de l'Europe was established in 1985. It is one of the largest European interdisciplinary student associations, operating in 43 countries. The organization promotes a unified Europe without prejudices, strives towards an open and tolerant society, and fosters democracy, human rights, international cooperation and a European dimension in education. Its fields of action include cultural exchange, active citizenship, higher education and peace and stability.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization's mission is to inform and educate the young people of Europe about European values, its diverse cultures and its heritage; find solutions to social and political problems; build and strengthen democracy and civil society, as well as a culture of peace and cooperation; extend the range of educational opportunities available to young people throughout Europe; and encourage and facilitate youth mobility, activism and integration.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

Cooperation with United Nations bodies

Between 2006 and 2009, the organization maintained relations with different United Nations bodies and agencies and actively participated in several world youth meetings, conferences and study programmes, including the forty-seventh United Nations Graduate Study Programme at the United Nations Office at Geneva, on "Working to reduce the impact of the economic crisis on human rights, development and the environment". It was actively involved in consulting UNESCO about higher education. It was represented on the Joint Programmatic Commission on Youth of the UNESCO-NGO Liaison Committee and participated in several conferences and meetings, for example, the sixth UNESCO Youth Forum in Paris, in October 2009 on the theme "Towards a partnership between UNESCO and youth organizations". A conference entitled "On the way to equal rights", held in June 2006 in Turkey, was supported by European Commission Youth and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). The organization also actively participated in the second Youth Forum of the League of Arab States, held in Jordan in November 2008 and in the third Youth Forum of the League of Arab States, held in Morocco in November 2009 on "Youth and migrations: A human-rights-based approach". It has had a long-lasting partnership with the World Bank and has sat on the steering committee and final jury of the World Bank's essay competition for three years. It also participated in various working groups reflecting the spirit of the United Nations, including the Environmental Working Group (http://www.wg.aegee.org/enwg), the Human Rights

Working Group (http://www.wg.aegee.org/hrwg), the International Politics Working Group (http://www.wg.aegee.org/ipwg) and others. The organization developed a flagship project in 2008-2009 aimed at raising awareness and increasing the involvement of European youth and their communities in the topic of sustainable development (see http://sufunews.blogspot.com). It participated in or organized many international events reflecting the spirit of the United Nations, including a project on how international collaboration could help to secure the supply of energy, December 2009, Germany; "ECO SPIRIT — the responsible way of living!", November, Bulgaria; "Sustaining our future and the city", October, Spain; "Gender and religion — Exploring equality", February 2009, Azerbaijan; "Africa — So far, yet so close", April 2008, Poland; "Europe", March 2007, Italy; "Water — Blue Gold: Challenges to a sustainable future", January 2007, Germany; "Take Control! — Training for Democracy", July 2006, Hungary; "The end of the human rights' time?" January 2006, Poland.

3. Indonesian Child Welfare Foundation

Special, 2002

I. Introduction

Indonesian Child Welfare Foundation was founded in 1979. Inspired by the commemoration of the twentieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, its founders believe that developing dignified quality individuals can only be achieved by giving them their rights and fulfilling their basic physical, mental and spiritual needs so that they can survive, grow and develop.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Vision: Strong, quality and forward-looking Indonesian children in a prosperous and independent Indonesian society. Mission: Improve the welfare of Indonesian children through increased public awareness and knowledge, and develop their potential, in accordance with their rights and their capacity; create an environment to provide opportunities, support, freedom and protection for full spiritual, physical, mental and social development. The Foundation develops resource capacity through mutual and synergetic partnership. It builds capacity with Governments, United Nations bodies, corporations, NGOs, etc.

Significant changes in the organization

The Foundation established programmes for children under five, child information centres, a youth hotline service, new preschool programmes, childhood development centres, playgrounds, new child scholarships, school libraries, mobile libraries, mobile technology, media and information literacy programmes, youth parliaments, education programmes on safety and healthy food in schools, drawing and writing competitions, a national children's day, programmes for children in need of special protection, programmes to prevent street children, child trafficking, child domestic labour and the use of children in drug trafficking, and programmes for children in armed conflict, children in conflict with the law and children in disaster areas.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

(a) Executing action programmes to protect working children and to combat and eliminate child labour; promoting the rehabilitation and reintegration of child victims of trafficking; supporting children's rights through education, art and the media; (b) working to achieve Millennium Development Goal 2 by fostering early childhood development; (c) assisting children in disaster areas; providing mobile child services in Aceh; developing mobile information and technology in Yogyakarta and Bengkulu; (d) promoting a world fit for children; establishing a national children's day; and promoting child-friendly cities.

A. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO): rehabilitation and reintegration of child victims of trafficking in 2008 and 2009. In collaboration with UNESCO: production of guidelines on information literacy programmes in 2009; training in media literacy for elementary teachers in 2006 and 2007; training in information literacy for elementary teachers in 2008. In collaboration with UNICEF: assessment of UNICEF centres in four districts in 2008; organization of an annual writing contest for children 2005-2009.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Support for disaster victims by building libraries in elementary schools in Barongan, Yogyakarta; establishment of a mobile child service for children of tsunami victims in Aceh and earthquake victims in Yogyakarta, in 2006 and 2007; training in early childhood education in selected provinces in 2009; the establishment of four child centres for child victims of the earthquake in Bantul, Yogyakarta; establishment of scholarships for children to attend elementary school and senior high school; establishment of youth parliaments for senior high school students, 2002 to 2009; prevention of drug abuse by children and youth and of using children for drug trafficking, in cooperation with ILO (2008 and 2009); advocacy of the concept of child-friendly cities to the Government 2009.

4. LatCrit

Special, 2006

I. Introduction

Aims and purposes of the organization

LatCrit (Latino and Latina Critical Legal Theory) is a non-governmental organization composed of legal scholars and social activists dedicated to conducting research and other activities to promote social justice awareness and activism. Its goals are to develop a critical, activist and interdisciplinary discourse on law and on policy towards Latinas and Latinos, and to foster the development of coalition theory and practice, and make such knowledge available to agents of social and legal transformation. LatCrit carries out these aims by participating in the following activities: (a) organizing conferences, workshops, symposiums and other similar programmes and events; (b) fostering diverse, interdisciplinary, cross-cultural and international participation in its projects; (c) promoting and publishing research, fieldwork and data collection on relevant matters; and (d) collaborating on appropriate legal reform projects or litigation of particular relevance to LatCrit's goals, except as prohibited by applicable laws of the United States of America or the State of Florida, or by LatCrit's by-laws, board resolutions or articles of incorporation.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

(a) Attended the annual ministerial review of the Economic and Social Council in Geneva in July 2009, at which it submitted a written statement on mass incarceration and public health in the United States; (b) attended the High-level Dialogue on International Migration and Development in New York in September 2006; (c) attended the first session of the Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference in Geneva in 2007, at which it submitted a written response to the questionnaire on complementary standards on racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance. The purpose of the Conference was to evaluate the implementation of the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1. Organized the fourteenth annual LatCrit conference, on the theme "Outsiders inside: Critical outsider theory and praxis in the policymaking of the new American regime", Washington, D.C., October 2009.

Goal 2. Conducted an analysis to explore reasons for drop-out rates, improve graduation rates, and increase the number of students of colour in postgraduate studies.

Goal 3. Organized the twelfth annual LatCrit conference, Miami, Florida, 4-6 October 2007.

C. Activities in support of global principles

LatCrit organized several conferences on immigration, low-wage and undocumented workers, prostitution, human trafficking, race-related issues such as discrimination, affirmative action, freedom and equality, influences in the labour market, and citizenship concerns.

5. Lesbian and Gay Federation in Germany

Special, 2006

I. Introduction

Lesbian and Gay Federation in Germany is a national organization that works towards creating a society in Germany, Europe and the world, in which lesbians, gay men, bisexuals and transgender and intersex people have equality before the law. It is the main advocacy organization in Germany for these persons and has regional branches in all 16 federal states.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization works for a world where lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people are treated with respect and acceptance and can participate equally in society without having to hide their identity and without being discriminated because of their sexual orientation or gender identity. It lobbies in the fields of partnership law, anti-discrimination law and transgender law, and campaigns for civil and human rights at the local, national, European and international levels. It is also engaged in media advocacy and the establishment of information services. It helps to find locations for self-help and social services groups and develops projects and activities.

Significant changes in the organization

Since 2009, the organization has been lobbying for the human rights of intersex people, including through the Hirschfeld-Eddy Foundation. The aims of the Foundation are to promote respect for the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people, support international human rights activities and human rights defenders, and combat prejudice and discrimination. It is named after the German physician, Magnus Hirschfeld, and the prominent lesbian human rights activist, Fannyann Eddy, from Sierra Leone, who was murdered in 2004.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization was granted consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in 2006. Since 2007, it has cooperated with other major human rights organizations in Germany, and its media have covered activities and issues related to the United Nations. With respect to the Human Rights Council's universal periodic review, it worked on a shadow report, together with the Human Rights Forum (the German human rights umbrella organization), which was submitted in September 2008. In February 2009, it submitted a special report and focused on partnership law (taxation, civil service law, rainbow families, second parent adoption, artificial insemination and assisted reproduction), unconstitutional transexuality law, anti-discrimination law and human rights. Regarding the committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Convention, in 2008 it

worked on a joint shadow report with other German human rights and women's organizations, and contributed to a parallel report on racism. At the sixty-third session of the General Assembly, it lobbied for a letter of support on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex rights, supported by Germany and 65 other countries: in 2008, its human rights Foundation (the Hirschfeld-Eddy Foundation) facilitated, in cooperation with other organizations, side events, workshops, and the lobbying of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex human rights defenders from the global South and Eastern Europe. Between 2006 and 2009, as a member organization of the Human Rights Forum, it regularly took part in round-table discussions with the German Minister for Foreign Affairs.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

During the reporting period, it submitted joint statements to the Human Rights Council, together with the Canadian HIV/AIDS Legal Network and ILGA Europe. It participated in numerous Human Rights Council sessions, at which it focused on lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex rights worldwide.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In 2007, the organization participated in an expert round table on the perspectives of the Human Rights Council, in Berlin. The event was organized by German human rights NGOs. The organization's representative spoke about sexual orientation and important gaps in the human rights system, and moderated another panel. Important human rights experts such as Theo van Boven (Special Rapporteur on torture), representatives of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Relationship with the United Nations, the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations in Geneva, the Cairo Institute for Human Rights Studies and German politicians and human rights organizations took part. Between 2006 and 2009, the organization delivered aides-memoires on the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered and intersex people worldwide, in the context of the Human Rights Council.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 6. The organization contributed to HIV/AIDS prevention efforts, and in 2008 and 2009 its human rights Foundation supported lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex organizations in the global South and Eastern Europe, organized human rights conferences, and initiated projects to increase acceptance and strengthen the protection of the human rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people.

III. Additional information

The organization regularly urges the Government of Germany to consider the situation and issues of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people as part of German foreign policy. In 2009, it informed the Chancellor, the Minister for

Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development about human rights violations suffered by such persons in various countries, and urged them to actively promote respect for their basic human rights. In 2008 and 2009, it also organized intense lobbying of German Members of Parliament concerning a draft resolution and recommendations to combat homophobia in the States members of the Council of Europe, and urged the German delegation to take part in the sessions and support the draft resolution. The resolution was finally adopted in 2010.

6. Medico International

Special, 2002

I. Introduction

Medico International is a medical relief, development and human rights organization working in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Middle East. In particular it provides assistance in emergency and poverty situations, including for refugees and victims of war.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Medico International aims to better health conditions, not by improving health-care systems, but by carrying out actions in the fields of nutrition, housing conditions, income, the social fabric and culture. It views health as a complex political issue and aims to strengthen the idea of comprehensive primary health care, particularly for displaced people, refugees and victims of war. The organization provides financial and technical support to health-related grass-roots initiatives, local NGOs and governmental departments in Africa, Asia and Latin America, and promotes the exchange of local and regional knowledge and the development of health-related concepts and strategies through a South-South approach. It is actively involved in advocacy, human rights and international public campaigns and education for development.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

During the reporting period, Medico International attended the following meetings: Seventh Meeting of the States parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, September 2006, Geneva; Meetings of the Standing Committees on the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, April 2007 and June and November 2008, Geneva; twelfth International Meeting of National Mine Action Programme Directors and United Nations advisers, March 2009, Geneva; Second Review Conference of the State parties to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction, 29 November-December 2009, Cartagena, Colombia.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization provided support to the implementation of the Mine Action Programme for Afghanistan under the coordination of and in consultation with the United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre of Afghanistan, from 2006 until

2008. It also financed an emergency aid project during the cholera pandemic in Zimbabwe, in collaboration with UNICEF; provided support to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) by operating a mobile clinic, providing primary health-care services, basic drugs and baby formula in Palestine, in 2008 and 2009; financed a stakeholder workshop on the implementation of the ban on anti-personnel mines in the Puntland region, Somalia, in June 2009; and provided emergency aid for Gaza in cooperation with the World Health Organization (WHO), in 2009.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 3. Medico International supported a women's social and cultural centre in Sulaimaniya, Iraq, in 2008 and promoted health and social rights of women lacking legal status in Israel, 2008.

Goal 4 and **Goal 5**. The organization supported primary health care in rural communities in Iraq, with a focus on the preventive aspects of women's and child health, in 2006 and 2007; operated a mobile clinic to provide basic drugs and baby formula in Palestine; financed the deficit spending of the rural health programme of the health centre "Gonoshasthaya Kendra" in Bhatshala, Bangladesh, with a focus on child and maternal health.

Goal 5. In cooperation with the Popular Aid for Relief and Development clinic, the organization organized an environmental health programme in Lebanon and provided women's empowerment classes in rural communities and programmes to train women as community health workers.

Goal 6. Medico International supported HIV/AIDS awareness work and psychological support for people with HIV/AIDS in Cuba, and financed a training seminar for the Brazilian Interdisciplinary AIDS Association in 2008.

Goal 7. The organization supported integrated community development in rural Nicaragua, including health, water and sanitation, from 2006 to 2009. It also provided support to an environmental health programme in informal Palestinian settlements in South Lebanon, improving drinking water, sanitation and waste removal, in 2007 and 2008.

7. Population Reference Bureau

Special, 2002

I. Introduction

Population Reference Bureau informs people around the world about population, health and the environment and empowers them to use that information to advance the well-being of current and future generations by analysing complex demographic data and research. It builds coalitions and conducts workshops around the world to give key audiences the tools they need to understand, and works to ensure that policymakers in developing countries and the United States rely on sound statistics.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The Bureau focuses its work around four core themes: reproductive health and fertility; children and families; population and the environment; and population futures — ageing, inequality and poverty, migration and urbanization, and gender. We also emphasize two strategic approaches, namely building coalitions and mobilizing civil society. For more than 20 years, the Bureau has hosted a monthly seminar series focused on the policy implications of population issues, and now conducts online discussions on topics ranging from repositioning family planning to innovative contraceptive technology. It empowers people, including researchers, journalists, policymakers and educators, to use information on population, health and the environment to encourage action. The "Pop'Médiafrique" programme, one of several Population Reference Bureau networks located in West Africa, has improved news coverage and has increased the demand for family planning in the region. In addition, the Bureau has trained nearly 500 advocates, health professionals and government workers in Africa, Asia, and Latin America in the past five years.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The Bureau supported the global and regional meetings and conferences of the United Nations; mobilized the news media to cover its activities and to improve the quality and quantity of reporting; and analysed complex data and research on reproductive health, HIV/AIDS, gender and environmental issues, to provide the most objective, accurate and up-to-date population information.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The Bureau sponsored eight women journalists from developing countries at the XVI International AIDS Conference in Toronto, Canada, in August 2006, and 11 journalists from seven countries at a meeting on youth and reproductive health in Maputo. It also sponsored journalists at the "Women Deliver" conference in London in 2007, and at the Fifth African Population Conference, in Arusha in

December 2007. In November 2009, it participated in a conference on "Family planning: Research and best practices", held in Munyonyo, Uganda, sponsored by WHO, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

In collaboration with WHO headquarters in Geneva and the WHO Regional Office for Africa (WHO/AFRO), the Bureau produced a family planning advocacy toolkit in September 2008. It also provided technical assistance, curriculums and resource materials for a workshop on repositioning family planning, in Burkina Faso, in 2008, which was attended by 38 family planning advocates from eight West African countries. At a WHO/UNFPA regional meeting on family planning for technical officers from francophone West Africa in 2009, the Bureau and WHO/UNFPA organized a joint session for journalists attending a media training course. In collaboration with UNFPA, it produced a book on contraceptive security in 2009, to encourage recommitment to the goals set at the International Conference on Population and Development, held in Cairo in 1994 and to the Millennium Development Goals. Since 2002, it has collaborated with the family planning and maternal health staff of UNFPA to compile a database of key demographic, economic and social indicators relevant to UNFPA programme priorities and resource mobilization needs for 163 countries. The database includes indicators. Another joint publication with UNFPA entitled *Country Profiles for Population and Reproductive Health: Policy Developments and Indicators 2009/2010*, produced in 2005, was redesigned to facilitate the distribution of regional modules.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

In the last four years, the Bureau produced and widely disseminated a policy brief entitled "Investing in reproductive health to achieve development goals: The Middle East and North Africa" (2005). This policy brief outlines how prioritizing women's reproductive health at the national level would help to accelerate progress in the Middle East and North Africa towards achieving the Goals. Another policy brief on education and delayed childbearing (September 2007) supports Goal 3 and describes adolescent girls' reproductive health risks and how increasing their educational achievement reduces those risks. The policy brief on reproductive health in sub-Saharan Africa (2008) reveals how the region is behind on many of the Goals. Other policy briefs contain information on women, fertility rates and contraceptive methods used in more than 150 countries, a new study on Bangladesh, and valuable information for policymakers, programme planners and journalists on the benefits of family planning, in support of Goals 4 and 5. A guide to sexual and reproductive health in East Africa (2009) contains the latest available data on sexual and reproductive health from five East African countries, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

8. Presbyterian Church USA

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

Presbyterian Church USA has 2.3 million members and over 11,000 congregations in the United States. The organization works through a growing network of global partnerships in child advocacy, health and development, poverty alleviation and peacebuilding, hunger and disaster relief, and environmental justice in 90 countries.

Aims and purposes of the organization

Presbyterian Church USA works to address human and social needs through disaster assistance, hunger alleviation and elimination, international health development, peace education and peacebuilding, and support for the self-development of peoples. Its programmes include: "Self-Development of People", an international network to promote the empowerment of the poor, the oppressed and the disadvantaged; the "Presbyterian Hunger Program", aimed at alleviating hunger and eliminating its causes by combining direct food relief with development assistance; health programmes for the most vulnerable and poor; and the "Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and Hunger Programme", which focuses on the long-term recovery of disaster-affected communities.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization attended the following meetings at Headquarters: (a) the Security Council open debate on post-conflict peacebuilding, May 2008; (b) the United Nations Disarmament Commission, April-May 2009; (c) the Commission on the Status of Women, February-March 2007, February-March 2008 and March 2009; (d) Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, May-June 2007; (e) General Assembly interactive thematic dialogue on taking collective action to end human trafficking, May 2009. Participation in other countries includes: (a) Human Rights Council, universal periodic review working group, April 2008, Geneva; (b) United Nations Climate Change Conferences, December 2007, Bali, Indonesia; December 2008, Poznan, Poland; and December 2009, Copenhagen.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

The organization held meetings with the following: (a) United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, October 2006; (b) Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations,

July 2007; (c) Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, July 2007; (d) Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on the Sudan, September 2007; (e) joint meeting with the Assistant Secretary-General for Policy Coordination and Strategic Planning, February 2008; (f) humanitarian assistance and advocacy in cooperation with UNRWA, to help meet basic needs such as food, clean water, medical care and psychosocial assistance in Palestine, 2009.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1. Provided over 82,500 people with nutritional care.

Goal 4. Provided prenatal, post-natal, dental and infant care to over 1,500 children.

Goal 7. Installed 1,177 latrines.

Presbyterian Church USA was a co-convener of the Millennium Development Goals Campaign side event on NGO investments in the Goals and partnerships at the High-level Event on the Millennium Development Goals, September 2008. It also convened educational seminars for students and congregation members of all ages on topics relevant to each of the Goals.

9. WinVisible: Women with Visible and Invisible Disabilities

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

WinVisible: Women with Visible and Invisible Disabilities is a disabled people's organization of women from different ethnic backgrounds with visible disabilities such as cerebral palsy and polio and invisible disabilities, such as sickle cell anaemia and cancer.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The main aims of WinVisible are to improve the quality of life of women with disabilities by addressing disadvantage and discrimination and enabling women with disabilities to access their rights and entitlements, and to improve the awareness of intergovernmental, statutory, non-governmental and voluntary bodies, policymakers, the public and the media about the needs and experiences of women with disabilities. WinVisible gathers and disseminates information on these issues to national, regional and local governments and exchanges information internationally with organizations for women with disabilities, such as Women with Disabilities Australia.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

The organization monitors the implementation of the United Nations policy on disabled women/people and holds events to commemorate the International Day of Disabled Persons every year.

B. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 3. All our activities aim to protect vulnerable disabled women and girls from sexual and physical abuse.

10. Women Against Rape

Special, 1998

I. Introduction

Women Against Rape is a multiracial grass-roots organization, established in 1976. It is the only organization in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that brings together women who have been raped and women who are seeking asylum after rape.

A. Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization aims to expose, prevent and ultimately end all forms of rape, domestic violence, sexual assault and harassment, including racist sexual assault. It insists that all women and girls are entitled to official condemnation of and protection from rape, and presses for justice and compensation, as well as resources such as benefits and safe housing, so that women and children can escape from and avoid violence and rebuild their lives. It aims to convince the public, the criminal justice system, legislators and policymakers that the needs and experiences of grass-roots women must become central to policy and practice.

B. Significant changes in the organization

The organization's provision of services is demand-led. One important change over the reporting period was the significant increase in the numbers of women (and their children) being held in immigration detention centres. Another great concern for women who are considering reporting rape to the police is the increasing number of women being taken to court on charges of making "false allegations". Because it is critical that women are not blamed for the low conviction rate for rape (currently 6.5 per cent), the organization has been supporting individual women faced with this charge and campaigning against this dangerous trend.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

During the reporting period, the organization: (a) provided advocacy and support services to 30 to 40 women and girls a week who were facing tremendous obstacles in securing the protection, redress and support they need to recover from their ordeals; (b) provided a safe environment for women to talk about what happened; (c) trained counsellors to interview women seeking asylum and to provide reports that document women's experiences, and enabled women to speak out in the media, at public meetings, in local schools and in Parliament about their experiences; (d) pressed for changes in the priority given by authorities and policymakers to tackling sexual violence and for recognition of rape and other torture as grounds for asylum and/or other State protection; (e) insisted on resources being made available so that women can escape from violent situations; (f) conveyed women's demands to the wider public via interviews and articles in local, national and specialized

newspapers and on radio and television. In all its work with rape survivors seeking asylum, the organization sought to utilize international precedents and/or resolutions, including those of United Nations bodies. It pressed the Government to reflect the international condemnation of rape in its decisions on asylum claims from women from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and sought to publicize and utilize Security Council resolution 1820 (2008), which recognizes that "rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide". It also assisted individual women in making submissions to the European Court of Human Rights based on the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

A. Participation in the work of the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

All the organization's work promotes United Nations commitments on violence against women, in particular the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and those made subsequently at Beijing+5. However, since its participation in Beijing+5, the organization has not been able to attend United Nations meetings, owing to lack of funds and the demand for its services.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

During the reporting period, the organization continued to receive funding from (and regularly reported back to) the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Victims of Torture for its project, "Finding refuge from rape and other torture", enabling the organization to employ full-time and sessional staff to provide support services to rape survivors who are victims of torture.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 3. The organization's authority and expertise were recognized among the public and the media, and at the highest policy and executive levels. In 2006, it produced several publications aimed at ensuring that all survivors, regardless of their background or immigration status, get the information they need in order to pursue the protection and resources needed for recovery. It co-authored a dossier entitled "Misjudging rape: Breaching gender guidelines and international law in asylum appeals" (2006), and published its "rights and information sheet" for survivors seeking asylum. It also collaborated with the All African Women's Group, the Black Women's Rape Action Project and Legal Action for Women, and published a report on an investigation into women's rights violations at the Yarl's Wood Immigration Removal Centre. Two high-profile cases of serial attackers brought to trial in 2009 confirmed the organization's experience that rapists too often go free because of biased and negligent investigations. Women Against Rape organized meetings with senior members of Government and criminal justice agencies and met with senior police officers tasked with reorganizing the specialist police units throughout London. The Director of Public Prosecutions conveyed some of the organization's demands in a letter to Chief Crown Prosecutors nationally, many of which are now being widely implemented.

11. World Information Transfer

General, 2002

I. Introduction

World Information Transfer is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization that promotes environmental health and literacy. Inspired by the Chernobyl nuclear tragedy, it was formed in 1987 in recognition of the pressing need to provide accurate actionable information about the deteriorating global environment and its effect on human health to opinion leaders, concerned citizens and youth around the world.

Aims and purposes of the organization

The organization has convened forums where international experts present scientific papers on the growing clinical evidence supporting the link between degrading environments and diminished human health. The conference was convened as a parallel event to the annual meeting of the Commission on Sustainable Development. The organization's scientific work includes: (a) setting up a health and development CD-ROM library for Ukraine, in conjunction with UNDP; (b) providing humanitarian aid to hospitals and orphanages in areas devastated by environmental degradation; (c) internship programme at the United Nations; (d) setting up a scholarship programme for intellectually gifted university students in need of financial assistance to continue their studies in areas related to health and environment.

II. Contribution of the organization to the work of the United Nations

The organization participated in the annual conference on health and environment at Headquarters, co-sponsored by the Government of Ukraine and other Member States, with the cooperation of WHO, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs, the Non-Governmental Liaison Service, UNDP (2007 and 2008), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) (2006 and 2007), UNICEF (2007) and the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) (2006). The Conference agenda addresses the interrelationship among environmental deterioration, human health and education, particularly within the context of progress towards the Millennium Development Goals.

A. Participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary entities

Commission on Sustainable Development side events: (a) May 2006, "Energy and air pollution: a children's health perspective"; (b) May 2007, "Revisiting Nuclear Energy: Redevelopment since Chernobyl", in collaboration with UNDP and the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations; (c) May 2008, "Renewable

Energy", in collaboration with the NGO Section of the Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Permanent Mission of Ukraine.

B. Cooperation with United Nations bodies

(a) Participated in a consultation on sustainable development with the High-level Panel on System-wide Coherence, July 2006, Geneva; (b) presented a statement at the informal interactive hearings of the General Assembly with NGOs, civil society organizations and private sector on the Midterm Review of the Implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010, June 2006, New York; (c) participated in the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Copenhagen, December 2009; (d) participated in an e-discussion on global public health, as part of the preparatory process for the Economic and Social Council annual ministerial review, January-February 2009.

C. Activities in line with the Millennium Development Goals

Goal 1. Sent humanitarian aid shipments to affected countries twice annually.

Goal 7. Held annual conferences to bring together experts to educate and inform policymakers, students and the public on environmental issues; prepared world ecology reports as part of school curriculums; and developed the CD-ROM development library described above.